

Watermark Encoded Video, and Related Methods

Abstract of the Disclosure

Watermarks in video signals or the accompanying audio track can be used to associate video objects in a video sequence with object specific actions or information. A video object refers to a spatial and temporal portion of a video signal that depicts a recognizable object, such as a character, prop, graphic, etc. By encoding object specific information into video or an accompanying audio track, the watermarks transform video objects into “watermark enabled” video objects that provide information, actions or links to additional information or actions during playback of a video or audio-visual program. A similar concept may be applied to audio objects, i.e. portions of audio that are attributable to a particular speaker, character, instrument, artist, etc. In accordance with another aspect, a method of processing video content includes receiving video content (including picture element data and non-picture element data), reading certain of the non-picture element data, and checking information steganographically encoded in the picture data that is related to the read data for expected correspondence.